GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1176
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2016
NGOs working under Mid Day Meal Scheme
Agrawal Shri Rajendra

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some NGOs are providing meals to schools through centralised kitchens under Mid-Day Meal (MDM) scheme and if so, the number thereof, State/ UT-wise;
(b) the number of Rural and Urban schools covered by NGOs in State/UTwise under MDM;
(c) whether the Government has taken note that due to intervention of NGOs community participation has decreased and local cooks/helpers are forced to leave jobs under MDM in Rural India and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether samples, collected from NGO"s centralised kitchen have been found to be in compliance with prescribed standards and nutritive values and if so, the details thereof as percentage of total collected samples; and
(e) whether some NGOs are not adhering to the guidelines of the Government, especially, in menu selection and the quality of meal delivered and if so, the details thereof and the action taken/ being taken by the Government against such NGOs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) to (c): The Mid Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is implemented in partnership with States/UTs. The overall responsibility for providing cooked and nutritious mid day meal to the eligible children lies with the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations. The MDM guidelines provide for Centralized kitchens for urban areas where there is space constraint. In Centralized kitchens, cooking can take place and cooked hot meal may be transported under hygienic conditions through reliable transport systems to various schools. The guidelines also provide for active community participation for day to day management, supervision and monitoring of the programme through Self Help Groups, Village Education Committees, Gram Panchayats and School Management Committees. The State/UT-wise number of schools covered by NGOs is given at Annexure.
(d) & (e): NGOs /voluntary agencies for serving meals in identified clusters of schools are engaged by the respective State/UT Governments. The segregated data regarding testing of samples from centralized kitchens is not centrally maintained. However, as reported by the States altogether a total of 3089 samples were tested by the States/UTs in 2015-16. As per available information, 16 complaints relating to NGOs engaged by States for MDM were received during last three years and current year in the Ministry. Action such as terminating their contracts, initiating criminal proceedings, imposing monetary compensation etc. have been taken by State Governments.
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